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Message Text

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ORIGIN COME-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 OES-07 SIG-01
IO-13 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DLOS-09 CEQ-01 INT-05
SMI-01 DODE-00 PM-04 EPA-01 AGRE-00 EB-07 SP-02
PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 AF-10 NEA-10 L-03 /115 R

DRAFTED BY COMM/NOAA:RARNAUDO/OES/ENP/EN:CHSANDERS:SRS
APPROVED BY OES/ENP/EN:HSPIELMAN
COMM/NOAA:PFOX
EUR/CE:GHUMPHREY
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OES/OFA/OCA:MBUSBY
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TO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
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AMEMBASSY LONDON

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COPENHAGEN FOR REGIONAL FISHERIES ATTACHES

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: NL, SW, SZ, BE, GW, VE, CS, EC, SENV, IWC

SUBJECT: MEMBERSHIP IN INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION (IWC)

REFERENCE: STATE A-805 (FEB. 11, 1976)

1. SUMMARY: IN RECENT YEARS THE INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION (IWC) HAS ESTABLISHED PROBRESSIVELY MORE EFFECTIVE CONSERVATION MEASURES FOR WHALES WORLDWIDE.LIMITED WHALING BY A FEW LESSER WHALING NATIONS (NOTABLY PERU AND SOUTH KOREA STILL NOT MEMBERS OF IWC, DIMINISHES INTERNATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS OF IWC CONSERVATION REGIME; ACCORDINGLY, IWC AND USG HASBEEN SEEKING TO PERSUADE THESE COUNTRIES TO JOIN. AT SAME.TIME, IN ORDER TOALANCE THIS PROSPECTIVE ADDITION TO WHALING NATION VOTING POWER IN IWC AND PREVENT POSSIBLE RESULTANT DOWNGRADING OF IWC CONSERVATION PROGRAM, USG ALSO DESIRES ENCOURAGE ADDITIONAL CONSERVATION-MINDED NON-WHALING STATES TO JOIN. END SUMMARY.

2. FOR THE HAGUE AND STOCKHOLM: NETHERLANDS, SWEDEN, AND NEW ZEALAND WERE NON-WHALING NATIONS APPROACHED ON SUBJECT LAST YEAR (REFAIR). NEW ZEALAND SINCE HAS BECOME IWC MEMBER AND NETHERLANDS AND SWEDEN HAVE BEEN SENDING OBSERVERS. WE BELIEVE BOTH LATTER EOUNTRIES SHARE U.S. CONCERNS ON WHALE CONSERVATION AND WOULD BE WELCOME ADDITIONS TO IWC. WE HAVE RECEIVED PRELIMINARY INDICATIONS
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THAT NETHERLANDS IS PLANNING TO JOIN, AND WE WISH GIVE THIS OUR FULL ENCOURAGEMENT. UNDERSTAND THAT SWEDEN IS ALSO FAVORABLY INCLINED BUT MAY BE HESITANT BECAUSE OF FEELING THAT IT KACKS SPECIFIC SCIENTIFIC EXPERTISE IN FIELD TO PARTICIPATE EFFECTIVELY. WE DO NOT SEE THIS AS DISADVANTAGE--IWC SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE, WHICH INCLUDES MOST OF WORLD'S LEADING CETACEAN SPECIALISTS, IS MADE UP OF EXPERTS FROM MANY BUTOT ALL IWC MEMBERS. ITS SCIENTIFIC ADVICE, ON WHICH COMMISSION MEMBERS BASE THEIR DECISIONS, HAS INTERNATIONAL CHARACTER AND ENABLES LESS SPECIALIZED COMMISSIONERS TO TAKE ADEQUATELY INFORMED POSITIONS ON ISSUES BEFORE THEM.

2. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE REITERATE STRONG PREVIOUS U.S. ENCOURAGEMENT TO HOST GOVT TO JOIN IWC; ALSO ADVISE DEPT. OF STATUS OF ITS PLANS TO DO SO. ALSO ADVISE US IF, AS WE HOPE, BOTH COUNTRIES WILL AGAIN BE REPRESENTED AT LEAST BY OBSERVERS AT FORTHCOMING ANNUAL IWC MEETING IN CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA, JUNE 20-24.

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3. FOR BERN, BRUSSELS, BONN, SAN JOSE, QUIT8: RESPECTIQE HOST GOVERNMENTSHAVE ALL SHOWN SIGNIFICANT SUPPORT INTER-NATIONALLY AND IN THEIR OWN DOMESTIC PROGRAMS FOR CONSER-VATION OF WILDLIFE AND OTHER LIVING RESOURCES. WE BELIEVE THEY SHARE U.S. PRIORITIES ON WHALE CONSERVATION AND THUS WOULD BE LIKELY CANDIDATEFOR IWC MEMBERSHIP. BEFORE MAKING OFFICIAL U.S. APPROACH ON SUBJECT, REQUEST EMBASSY PROVIDE OWN ASSESSMENT TO DEPT. REGARDING POSSIBILITY THAT HOST GOVT MIGHT RESPOND FAVORABLY TO U.S. ENCOURAGE-MENT TO JOIN IWC. POST MIGHT MAKE INFORMAL SOUNDINGS AMONGAPPROPRIATE HOST GOVT CONTACTS AT YOUR DISCRETION. FOR YOUR INFORMATION, WE ARE SENDING COPIES OF REFAIR WHICH WAS SENT ON SUBJECT LAST YEAR, PLUS BACKGROUND PAPER ON OVERALL IWC PROGRAM FROM U.S. STANDPOINT.

4. FOLLOWING MAY BE USEFUL SUMMARY DATA ON IWC. ORGANI-
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ZATION WAS SET UP IN A945 UNDER INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE REGULATION OF WHALING, TO PERFORM REGULATORY FUNCTION IN INTEREST OF MANAGING WHALE STOCK LEVELS SO AS TO ENABLE ORDERLY DEVELOPMENT OF WHALING INDUSTRY. FROM THIS PRIMARILY INDUSTRY-ORIENTED APPROACH, IWC HAS EVOLVED IN RECENT YEARS SIGNIFICANTLY TOWARD MORE OF A CONSERVATION ROLE. IT HAS ESTABLISHED COMPLETE PROTECTION FROM COMMERCIAL WHALING FOR FIVE ESPECIALLY REDUCED WHALE SPECIES (BLUE, HUMPBACK, RIGHT, BOWHEAD AND GRAY); FOR OTHERS IT SETS SELECTIVE MORATORIA FOR INDIVIDUAL STOCKS FALLING BELOW A SCIENTIFICALLY DETERMINED SAFE POPULATION LEVEL; FOR STOCKSOFWHICH SOME COMMERCIAL TAKE CAN BE ALLOWED, IT ESTABLISHES HARVEST QUOTAS. UNDER RECENTLY ADOPTED PROCEDURES, SUBSTANTIAL AND PROGRESSIVE OVERALL REDUCTIONS HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED BY IWC IN THE NUMBER OF WHALES TAKEN WORLDWIDE IN RECENT SEASONS. THE PRESENT 16-NATION MEMBERSHIP OF IWC INCLUDES: ARGENTINA, AUSTRALIA, BRAZIL, CANADA, DENMARK, FRANCE, ICELAND, JAPAN, MEXICO, NEW ZEALAND, NORWAY, PANAMA, SOUTH AFRICA, UNITED KINGDOM, SOVIET UNION, AND THE UNITED STATES. BASIC ANNUAL COST FOR IWC MEMBERSHIP FOR A NON-WHALING NATION RANGES AROUND $4,000 (WHALING NATIONS PAY MORE, COMPUTED ON CATCH). CHRISTOPHER

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AMEMBASSY PANAMA PRIORITY
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CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

FOL RPT STATE 110999 ACTION THE HAGUE STOCKHOLM BERN BRUSSELS
BONN CARACAS QUITO SAN JOSE MEXICO COPENHAGEN LIMA WELLINGTON
SEOUL MADRID LISBON BRASILIA BUENOS AIRES CANBERRA MOSCOW
LONDON 15 MAY 77 QUOTE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE A-805
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2515139
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MEMBERSHIP IN INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION (IWC)
TAGS: SENV, NL, SW, SZ, BE, GE, VE, CS, EC, IWC
To: THE HAGUE STOCKHOLM MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2927d593-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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